

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NASSAU 00307 042353Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

DLOS-06 SAL-01 EA-07 OES-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00

/084 W

-----050026Z 031855 /70

R 041657Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9146

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 0307

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS, PFOR, BF

SUBJ: GCOB PERMSEC LINKS BASES AND ARCHIPELAGO

1. AT RECEPTION HELD BY DEAN OF HONORARY CONSULAR CORPS EVENING MARCH 4, AMBASSADOR WAS APPROACHED BY ORIS RUSSELL, PERMSECMINEXTAFF. AMONG OTHER TOPICS RAISED BY RUSSELL WAS HIS DIRECT ASSERTION, WITHOUT PREFACE, THAT UNLESS BAHAMIAN ARCHIPELAGO WERE RECOGNIZED BY USG "THERE WOULD BE NO U.S. BASES ANYWHERE IN BAHAMAS." RUSSELL CONTENDED, HOWEVER, THAT IF WE WOULD RECOGNIZE ARCHIPELAGO, WE COULD "HAVE BASES TOMORROW." AMBASSADOR, WHILE RETICENT TO DISCUSS MATTER IN ANY DETAIL GIVEN SETTING AND FACT THAT RUSSELL HAD HAD HIS USUAL LARGE QUOTA OF LIQUID REFRESHMENT, NEVERTHELESS POINTED OUT THAT U.S. RECOGNITION OR NON-RECOGNITION OF BAHAMIAN ARCHIPELAGO WAS NOT A DECISION BASED SOLELY ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH BAHAMAS AND COULD NOT BE DIVORCED FROM OUR MULTILATERAL ATTEMPTS TO SECURE A LOS TREATY. HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED PROBLEM WHICH RECOGNITION OF BAHAMIAN ARCHIPELAGO WOULD CAUSE WITH OTHER STATES CLAIMING ARCHIPELAGO - PHILIPPINES AND INDONESIA. RUSSELL ALLOWED AS TO HOW HE "UNDERSTOOD" AND MATTER WAS DROPPED.

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PAGE 02 NASSAU 00307 042353Z

WM COMMENT: AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE "LINKAGE" OF FACILITIES AND ARCHIPELAGO BY BAHAMians HAS BEEN SUBJECT OF EMBASSY SPECULATION AND REPORTING FOR LAST THREE YEARS. AT NO TIME HAS "LINK" BEEN STATED SO EXPLICITLY OR FOR THAT MATTER AT ALL BY BAHAMIAN OFFICIALDOM. AS DEPARTMENT ALSO AWARE, RUSSELL'S POSITION AT MINEXTAFF CARRIES LITTLE

WEIGHT AND EMBASSY FINDS IT UNPRECEDENTED AND HARD TO
SWALLOW THAT GCOB WOULD USE HIM TO CONVEY INFORMATION OF
SUCH SUBSTANTIVE IMPORT.
OLSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, ISLAND CLAIMS, MILITARY BASES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: GCOB PERMSEC LINKS BASES AND ARCHIPELAGO
TAGS: PLOS, PFOR, BF, US, (RUSSELL, ORIS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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